Get Involved in Your West Sector Neighborhood



# Neighborhood Plan Implementation

City of Seattle

April 2001

Dear Community Member:

In 1999, the City Council finished the approval process for 38 neighborhood plans created by nearly 20,000 citizens. The plans identify actions needed to ensure that each neighborhood will continue to thrive and improve as Seattle grows over the next 20 years in ways that meet our commitments under the State's Growth Management Act. We are happy to report that the process of making these plans a reality is well underway.

- 1. The community is leading much of the activity with the help of the City's Neighborhood Matching Fund. The Fund has been tripled to \$4.5 million over the past three years. Matching the City's contribution with donated cash and volunteer labor, the community is now completing about 250 neighborhood improvement projects each year.
- 2. Seattle's voters have committed major funding to carry out key portions of the plans through three ballot measures. A 1998 bond measure is resulting in 27 new, expanded, or renovated branch libraries and a new Downtown library; a 1999 levy will develop 11 new or expanded community centers; and last November's levy will produce over 100 park projects throughout Seattle.
- 3. Most of the work, though, will result from the City's new way of doing business: a decentralization to organize the work of City government around neighborhood priorities as defined by the neighborhoods themselves. Seattle has been divided into six sectors as shown on the map to the right. Decentralization makes it easier for departments to work together and with the community.

These things combined are converting neighborhood plans into real neighborhood improvements. Action on more than 1,000 plan recommendations is already underway or completed: new public facilities, parks, and community gardens; street repair; public safety and traffic improvements; design guidelines; art projects; and much more.

While this report focuses on what's being done to fulfill the neighborhood plans in your sector, other kinds of improvements are also occurring in your sector and throughout Seattle. The report lists community and City contact people for key projects in the hope that you will want to join in making your neighborhood the best possible place to live, work, and play.

Sincerely,

Paul Schell Mayor of Seattle Finder Cooling

Richard Conlin, Seattle City Council Neighborhoods, Sustainability and Community Development Committee Chair

# West/Center City

- Chinatown/International District
- Pioneer Square
- Commercial Core/Downtown Urban Center
- Belltown
- Denny Triangle
- Queen Anne/Uptown Urban Center
- South Lake Union
- Eastlake



International District Dragon Poles

**West Sector** 

### **Projects Completed**

#### **Community Design**

- Uptown Urban Center Streetscape and Design Guidelines — A streetscape plan and design guidelines were completed in 2000 and have been submitted to DCLU for review. They will be presented to the City Council in 2001.
- Fortson Square Improvements Final design and construction documents for improvements to Pioneer Square's Fortson Square were completed in 2000; construction will be completed in the first quarter of 2001.

#### **Transportation**

- Downtown Urban Center Wayfinding Demonstration Project — The first series of "wayfinding" signs have been installed; further development of a pedestrian wayfinding signage and directional information system is budgeted for 2001.
- Franklin Avenue Green Street In conjunction with the renovation of Eastlake's Seward School building, Franklin Avenue was closed and landscaped and play area improvements were completed in 2000.



Franklin Avenue Green Street

#### **Public Facilities**

- West Police Precinct and Downtown Neighborhood Service Center — The West Precinct facility at 9th Avenue & Virginia Street, which opened in fall 1999, was actively used by downtown neighborhood groups during 2000.
- Belltown Neighborhood Center A programming and feasibility study was completed in 2000.

#### **Public Safety**

 Metropolitan Improvement District (MID) Drop-In Station — A public safety drop-in station with community meeting space opened at 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue & Yesler Way in summer 2000. The MID Station provides a storefront office for MID Public Safety Ambassadors and Seattle police officers, and meeting space for community organizations.



Metropolitan Improvement District Drop-In Station

 Downtown Cleanscapes Program — A "cleanscapes" litter removal and street and alley cleaning program was expanded to provide services to a larger portion of the Downtown Urban Center in 2000.

#### **Arts and Culture**

- Downtown Art Installations Public art will be installed at both Fortson Square and Union Square early in 2001.
- 10. Belltown Gateways Project A north gateway sign has been installed near 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue & Denny Way; a south gateway feature will be installed at Western Avenue & Lenora Street in 2001.
- Eastlake Cornerstones and Tiles Project The first phase of this project was completed in 2000; additional installations will occur in 2001.



South lake Union Improvements

## **Projects In Progress**

#### **Community Design**

- Center City Urban Design and Open Space
   Implementation Strategy Existing neighborhood plans
   and previous design plans are being used to create a unified
   urban design streetscape and open space system.
- Belltown's Growing Vine Street Project Design and construction of a water feature on the Cascade Steps segment is underway and will be completed in 2001.
- Denny Triangle Green Streets Design, engineering, and final cost estimates for key elements of the 9th Avenue & Terry Avenue green street improvements are in progress.

#### **Libraries for All**

- Central Library Final design will be completed and construction will begin in 2001.
- Branch Library in the International District Plans and designs for a new branch library, located in the Village Square II project, are underway.

#### **Community Centers**

- Belltown Neighborhood Center Having completed a programming study, Seattle Parks and Recreation will begin a facility acquisition process in 2001.
- International District Community Center Plans and designs for a new community center, co-located with a branch library in the Village Square II project, are underway.

#### **Public Facilities**

8. Civic Center Project — The final design for a new city hall, justice center, and nearby open space is nearing completion; the first phase of construction on the Seattle Justice Center has begun.

#### **Transportation**

- Mercer and Valley Corridor Street Improvements —
   Preliminary engineering studies for transportation improvements in South Lake Union will be completed in spring 2001.
- 10. Roy Street and Queen Anne Avenue Intersection Improvements — Design options have been reviewed and approved by the Uptown/Queen Anne community. Funding for improvements will be sought in 2001.

#### **Public Safety**

- 11. Pioneer Square In conjunction with the South Downtown Community Partnership Forum, the Pioneer Square Public Safety Committee is coordinating security and community justice activities.
- 12. International District In conjunction with the South Downtown Community Partnership Forum, the Community Action Partnership (CAP) continues to coordinate security, cleanliness, and related public safety activities in the Chinatown/International District.
- 13. Belltown The Belltown Crime Prevention Council continues to work with the Belltown community, business groups, and the Seattle Police Department on crime prevention issues.

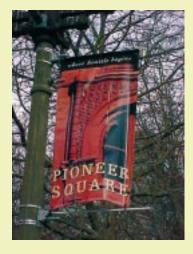


Fortson Square Art Installation, Elizabeth Conner, Artist

#### **Arts and Culture**

- 14. Pioneer Square Arts and Legends History Program The Arts and Legends Plan for location of public art within the Pioneer Square historic district will be completed in the first quarter of 2001.
- 15. Chinatown/
  International
  District Dragon
  Poles Dragon
  sculptures that will
  spiral around light
  fixtures in the
  Chinatown/
  International District
  were designed in
  2000; fabrication and
  installation will be
  completed in 2001.





Heritage Foundation opened an office in the Armory Building and completed a development feasibility study in 2000, and continues to work with the City and the maritime community to develop a new wharf at South Lake Union Park.

17. Tashiro Kaplan Artist Housing — The Pioneer Square Community Development Organization has contracted with Metropolitan King County to purchase the Tashiro Kaplan buildings and is working with ArtSpace on plans for conversion to artist housing. Predevelopment planning, design, and permitting will continue during 2001. If you want to get involved in a West Sector project

# **Future Projects**

#### **Pro Parks Levy Projects**

- Potlatch Trail A trail connection to Myrtle Edwards Park from Seattle Center is being planned.
- Belltown and Uptown/Queen Anne Waterfront Connections — Pedestrian access to the waterfront at Myrtle Edwards Park from Belltown and Uptown will be developed in conjunction with the Potlatch Trail.
- 3. South Lake Union Park
  Development Redevelopment, which
  will include demolition, landscaping, and
  other site enhancements, has begun.
- 4. Pioneer Square Area Park
  Improvements Improvements will
  be made to Pioneer Square Park and
  Occidental Park.
- I-5 Open Space in Eastlake —
   Space under Interstate 5 will be developed
   as open space; future use may include
   pedestrian stairways, an off-leash area,
   and other amenities.
- Queen Anne Park Development Planning for a new park at 4th Avenue North & Ward Street is underway; improvements are scheduled to get underway in 2001.
- 7. Uptown Park Acquisition The City will work to acquire a site within the Uptown Urban Center for a park.
- Mountain to Sound Greenway A trail that will connect I-90 to the waterfront is planned.
- Queen Anne Boulevard Improvements — Improvements to historic Queen Anne Boulevard are planned: pedestrian amenities, lighting, and landscaping.

Community Contacts	Phone Number
Belltown Cottages, Glen McGilvra	
Cleanscapes, Chris Martin	
Denny Triangle Streetscapes, Scott Species	
Downtown Safety Ambassador Program (MID), Bill Dietrich	
Downtown Urban Design and Open Space Strategy, Renee Tanner	
Growing Vine Street, Carolyn Geise	
International District Village Square II, Sue Taoka	
I-5 Open Space (Eastlake), Chris Leman	
Maritime Heritage Museum, Bob Sittig	
Mercer/Valley Corridor, Ed Geiger	
Pioneer Square Parks, Bif Brigman	
Tashiro Kaplan Artist Housing, Cathryn Vandenbrink	
Queen Anne Parks, Bill Blair	
Uptown Park Acquisition, Jean Sundborg	
Waterfront Connections/Potlatch Trail, John Coney	
City of Seattle Contacts	
DCLU CityDesign Office/Center City Open Space Implementation Strategy, John	Rahaim 684-0434
DCLU Code Development Issues, John Skelton	
Office of Economic Development/South Lake Union, Nathan Torgelson	
Office of Housing/Downtown Bonus Program, Rick Hooper	
Seattle Police Department, Benjamin Kinlow	
Seattle Arts Commission, Barbara Goldstein	
Seattle City Council/West Sector Stewards, Hons. Richard McIver/Jim Compton	
Seattle Parks and Recreation, Kerry Lasko	
SeaTran (Seattle Transportation), Trevor Partap	
Strategic Planning Office/Waterfront, Ethan Melone	
Seattle Center/Potlatch Trail, Margo Polley	
Seattle City Light, Dena Peel	
Seattle Public Utilities (SPU), O C Williams	
Department of Neighborhoods	
Growing Vine Street, Elizabeth Butler	615-1786
Historic Perservation/International District, Eugenia Woo	
Historic Perservation/Pike Place Market, Tom Quackenbush	
Historic Perservation/Pioneer Square, Jennifer Meisner	
Neighborhood Matching Fund, Shireen Deboo	
P-Patch Program, Rich Macdonald	
Downtown Neighborhood Service Center, Gary Johnson	
Queen Anne/Magnolia Neighborhood Service Center, Ed Pottharst	
Fremont (Lake Union) Neighborhood Service Center, Steve Louie	

#### **Your Neighborhood Development Manager**

John Eskelin, Department of Neighborhoods phone: 684-03593, fax 233-5142, e-mail: john.eskelin@ci.seattle.wa.us www.cityofseattle.net/don

Accommodations for persons with disabilities provided upon request. Phone 684-0464, TDD 615-0476.

